Updated Report: friday, 15th of December 2023

The seventeenth Day of the Israeli aggression against Palestine

Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine

From October 7 until December 15, 2023

Some of the information contained in this report is as of Thursday evening, 14th of December 2023.

The Emergency Operations Center at the Ministry of Health in Ramallah supervises the data collection process through its offices in Gaza. Numbers are updated every 24 hours. These numbers reflect confirmed statistics only but do not necessarily reflect all victims due to the fact that many victims are still missing under the rubble.

Current Situation:

Health System:

- Between October 7 and December 14, at least 18,700 Palestinians were martyred in the Gaza Strip, according to data from the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, about 70% of whom were women and children. More than 51,000 people are reported to have been injured, with large number missing.
- Among the martyrs: more than 300 personnel working in the health sector, 86 journalists, 32 civil defense crews, and 135 UNRWA employees.
- On 14 December, for the third consecutive day, Israeli occupation forces, accompanied by tanks, raided Kamal Adwan Hospital, in Beit Lahiya, north of Gaza city.
- Israeli occupation forces forced all the 2,500 internally displaced persons (IDPs) taking refuge inside the hospitals to leave, The remaining wounded and medical staff were forced to exit to the hospital grounds.
- The Israeli occupation forces prevented medical staff from providing support to 12 babies in intensive care and to ten injured people in the emergency department, leading to the death of two patients.

- Over 70 medical staff, including the director of Kamal Adwan hospital, remain detained at an unknown location. That day, the World Health Organization (WHO) expressed its concern about the raid on Kamal Adwan Hospital.
- The hospital was already only minimally functional due to acute shortages of fuel, water, food and medical supplies even before the hospital was sieged. WHO called for the protection of all people inside the hospital.
- On 14 December at about 17:45, the main Palestinian telecommunication group in Gaza announced that all services had been cut; the shutdown of communications is having severe impact on the ability of emergency services and humanitarian partners to reach the vulnerable.
- On 14 December 2023, in the West Bank, Israeli occupation forces withdrew from Jenin City and Jenin refugee camp, after a large-scale invading, during which they had imposed a curfew for about 60 hours. Over this period, eleven Palestinians, including three children, were martyred and dozens injured by Israeli occupation forces. An additional fatality was a boy who martyred while being impeded from accessing a hospital in an urgent medical case. Of the eleven fatalities, one was a boy who, according to eyewitness accounts by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and the MoH in the West Bank, was shot by Israeli occupation forces within the Jenin governmental hospital. while Israeli occupation forces surrounded the Hospital
- The Ministry of Health announced that it has run out of vaccinations in Gaza, leading to catastrophic health repercussions for children and the spread of diseases, especially among displaced people in overcrowded shelters. 360,000 cases of infectious diseases in shelters were documented, noting that the actual number is believed to be higher.
- For the ninth consecutive day, Al-Awda Hospital in Jabalia, northern Gaza, remains surrounded by Israeli occupation forces. Reportedly, 250 doctors, patients, and their family members are trapped inside the hospital.
- Currently, only 11 out of 36 hospitals in the Gaza Strip are partially functional and able to admit new patients, although services are limited. Only one of these hospitals is in the north, according to WHO. The two major hospitals in southern Gaza are operating at three times their bed capacity, while facing critical shortages of basic supplies and fuel. Occupancy rates are now reaching 206 per cent in inpatient departments and 250 per cent in intensive care units. Additionally, these hospitals are providing shelter to thousands of FDPs.

STATE OF PALESTINE
Dr. Mai Alkaila
Minister of Health

- On 13 December, the vicinity of Nasser hospital in Khan Younis was repeatedly bombarded, impeding the access of dozens of casualties. This hospital is among the ten hospitals in the south which are still partially operational and are sheltering thousands of FDPs.

Major Events:

- Heavy Israeli bombardments from air, land, and sea across Gaza continued on 14 December, especially in Jabalia, in the northern Gaza Strip. As of December 14, between the afternoons of December 13 and 14, 179 Palestinians were martyred, and 303 were injured.
- On 13 December, an UNRWA school which was sheltering forcibly displaced persons (FDPs) in Jabalia Refugee Camp was hit, with casualties reported. The same school had been hit several times previously. On the same day, another school in Jabalia, which was also sheltering FDPs, was raided by Israeli occupation forces.
- Limited aid distributions continue to take place in Rafah governorate, where almost half of Gaza's population is now estimated to be residing. In the rest of the Gaza Strip, aid distribution has largely stopped, due to the intensity of Israeli aggression and restrictions on movement along the main roads,
- The Gaza Strip has remained under an electricity blackout since October 11, significantly impacting critical services.

Population and Displacement:

- On 13 December, the Israeli occupation forces designated an additional area southwest of Khan Younis city, encompassing about 1.4 square kilometers, for immediate evacuation. This area was home to about 37,000 residents and an estimated 5,000 FDPs who took shelter in three designated emergency shelters in October 2023. Similar evacuations orders were issued in previous days for a large area east of Khan Younis. Collectively, these areas in the Khan Younis governorate encompass about 22 per cent of the Gaza Strip
- As of 12 December, according to UNRWA, more than 1.9 million people in Gaza, or nearly 90 % of the population, were estimated to be forcibly displaced. Nearly 1.2 million of these FDPs were registered in 154 UNRWA facilities across Gaza, of whom about one million are registered in 94 UNRWA shelters in the south.

STATE OF PALESTINE
Dr. Mai Alkaila
Minister of Health

- On average, UNRWA shelters in the middle and southern areas are currently hosting nine times the planned number of FDPs.
- Obtaining an accurate count is challenging, given difficulties including in tracking FDPs staying with host families, the movement of FDPs following evacuation orders since 1 December, and the evacuation of five UNRWA shelters in eastern Khan Younis on 6 December.
- Since December 1st, various areas, comprising nearly 30% of the Gaza Strip, have been marked for forcible displacement by the Israeli Occupation.
- UNRWA is verifying recent reports of incidents at UNRWA facilities. Since 7 October, 156 Israeli attacks affecting UNRWA premises have been reported.

Public Health catastrophe:

- Israeli occupation forces' actions, such as blowing up an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun That is sheltering thousands of forcibly displaced persons on December 12 and raiding Kamal Adwan Hospital, exacerbate the public health crisis.
- With the onset of winter and decreasing temperatures, there is an immediate and critical requirement for blankets, warm clothing, and adequate shelters. Many forcibly displaced persons (FDPs) had to abandon their homes without any belongings, and the makeshift shelters are ill-prepared to withstand rain and wind, leading to floods. This situation heightens the risk of diseases during cold conditions, compounding the ongoing displacement crisis and posing a severe threat to public health and well-being.
- The remains of Gaza civilians, either buried beneath the rubble or left unattended due to the actions of Israeli occupation forces, are now undergoing decomposition in the streets and beneath the rubbles. This disturbing situation poses an imminent and significant risk of a public health crisis.
- The lack of formula for babies in the current situation poses a severe risk of starvation and dehydration, contributing to a public health crisis.
- Due to the overcrowding and poor sanitary conditions at UNRWA shelters in the south, there have been significant increases in some communicable diseases and conditions. The Ministry of

STATE OF PALESTINE
Dr. Mai Alkaila
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Health in Gaza reported cases of meningitis, jaundice, impetigo, chickenpox, upper respiratory tract infections, smallpox, diarrhea, and influenza.

- The health conditions of FDPs outside UNRWA shelters are unclear, posing a public health risk due to limited access to medication, health facilities, and proper hygiene sources.
- On December 8th, the Gaza Municipality reported sewage flowing in the streets as pumping stations ceased operations due to a lack of fuel. Almost all water wells had also stopped working for the same reasons.
- Vulnerable groups face challenging shelter conditions, including people with disabilities, pregnant and breastfeeding women, individuals recovering from injuries or surgeries, and those with weakened immune systems.
- Efforts for children vaccination are minimal. since 4th of November, only 12,000 children have received vaccinations in UNRWA shelters.

Destroyed Buildings:

- Exact numbers of destroyed buildings are unavailable due to continued bombings.
- Latest updates indicate over 60% of housing units destroyed, exacerbating health vulnerabilities.

The West Bank, including Jerusalem:

- Since October 7, (287) Palestinians have been martyred in the West Bank, including Jerusalem. The year 2023 is the bloodiest year for Palestinians in the West Bank since 2005.
- Since 7 October, Israeli occupation forces have injured 3,431 Palestinians, including at least 535 children. An additional 84 Palestinians have been injured by settlers.
- Attacks on hospitals, health centers, and ambulances increase in the West Bank, limiting access to basic healthcare services.
- Settler attacks continue, with 331 incidents recorded since 7 October, resulting in casualties and damage to Palestinian-owned property.
- Since 7 October, at least 143 Palestinian households comprising 1,014 people, including 388 children, have been displaced amid settler violence and access restrictions.

STATE OF PALESTINE
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Urgent Needs:

- Immediate cessation of Israeli brutal war against Palestinian civilians.
- Urgent implementation of international humanitarian laws protecting health institutions and civilians.
- Immediate and unconditional entry of humanitarian and health supplies into Gaza.
- Halt forcible displacement of civilians.
- Urgent support for search and rescue operations.

STATE OF PALESTINE
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